

# **Experimental Graphical Local Hazardous Weather Outlook Product Description Document 06/05/03**

## **Part 1 - Mission Connection**

- a. Product/Service Description - The National Weather Service has implemented a daily Hazardous Weather Outlook (HWO) text product. Its main focus is identifying all potential weather hazards during the next 24 hour time frame. The Local Hazardous Weather page is meant to build off of the HWO text product, providing a more detailed aerial graphical depiction of the threat type and coverage.
- b. Purpose/Intended Use - The graphical hazardous weather outlook page is an outlook project. It is an effort to improve the utility of our outlooks and statements. It is designed as a one stop shop for hazardous weather outlook information.
- c. Audience - The target audience for this product is wide ranging. It is intended to be useful to emergency managers, local media, businesses, schools, law enforcement and the general public alike. The product is available to anyone who has an internet connection.
- d. Presentation Format - The html page will consist of the HWO text product, followed by a series of graphics depicting various hazards. The main hazards identified will be thunderstorm related hazards and coastal/marine hazards. Other hazards, which may vary seasonally, such as heat index and winter weather will also be included.
- e. Feedback Method - We are always seeking to improve our services based on user feedback. An OMB approved form may be used to submit comments about this new product. It is available on or within the web site containing the experimental product. Comments on the use of this Graphical Hazardous Weather Outlook webpage may be addressed to:

Thomas Kriehn 533 Roberts Road Newport, NC 28570 or e-mail comments to:  
[thomas.kriehn@noaa.gov](mailto:thomas.kriehn@noaa.gov)

**Comment period will extend from 6/05/03 to 7/31/05**

## **Part 2 - Technical Description**

- a. Format and Science Basis - The graphical hazardous weather outlook will provide outlook graphics depicting the potential for hazards associated with thunderstorms, including wind gusts, hail, tornadoes, short term flooding, and lightning. For coastal/marine hazards, it will depict wind and seas, rip currents, coastal flooding, and high surf. Other hazards currently include excessive heat, non convective winds, and long term (river) flooding.

b. Product Availability - The Local Graphical Hazardous Weather Outlook Page will be created in conjunction with the HWO text product between 4 a.m. and 6 a.m. each morning. The graphics will be valid for a 24 hour period from the initial issuance. Afternoon updates will be posted as time permits.

c. Additional Information - The Local Graphical Hazardous Weather Outlook webpage was developed by Richard Bandy, WFO Newport/Morehead City, NC